

# New Legislative Committee Looks At Constitution

By VINCENT THOMAS  
Assemblyman, 63rd District

A complete overhaul of California's archaic, wordy and much patched 85 year-old Constitution could result from the work started recently in Sacramento by the Constitutional Revision Commission. This 40 member body, made up of civic leaders from all segments of our population, was appointed by the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization, acting under two resolutions adopted by both houses at our 1963 sessions. This legislative committee, plus three other members named by each house,

compose an ex-officio body to work with the Commission.

At its first meeting, the Commission selected two distinguished leaders, one from the north and one from the south, to act as its co-chairmen. It also picked a well-known scholar of our California Constitution to serve as its parliamentarian. For staff assistance, the Commission depends on a Special Counsel for the Joint Committee (who is a former Assemblyman), a legislative intern, and the Committee secretary.

The long and complicated history of our State Constitution was reviewed from the

date of its first adoption at the Convention of 1849 and through its revision by the Convention of 1879. The 334 amendments approved since then, which have stretched the document to more than 70,000 words, were also summarized. The many futile efforts of the Legislature and of the voters to set up a new Constitutional Convention, were also cited.

BY A CURIOUS quirk in previous language of the Constitution, it was held that while the Legislature had authority to recommend amendment of it to the people for their action, power to suggest

partial or complete revision had not been conferred. It was not until November, 1962, that a constitutional amendment was approved by the voters which authorized the Legislature to propose revision, as well as amendment of the Constitution. The resolution calling for a study of revision was adopted under this authority, and the Commission was subsequently appointed.

For the benefit of the Commission, the Special Counsel defined a state express their will as to the extent and distribution of governmental powers not delegated to the federal government, nor de-

nied to the states by the U. S. Constitution. It covers the way in which the principal State Offices are organized and the incumbents selected, establishes the fundamental rights and liberties of the people, and provides a method by which the document may be amended.

HE POINTED out that there has long been common agreement that a state constitution should be brief, and limited to "fundamentals," avoiding "legislative" matters. The best state constitutions are brief, but they are not the best because they are brief, but rather

because they best meet the needs of the State. California's Constitution has long been criticized because it contains too much "legislative" matter, put in it by pressure groups to raise their objectives above legislative control.

A tentative draft of a revised Article of our Constitution relating to the Legislature was submitted to the Commission. Much detail was omitted from the draft, but a suggested new provision would establish a "Code of Constitutional Law"—a third "level" of law between the Constitution and the statutes for any act passed by a three-quarters vote of each

## West High Junior Class Sets Trip to See Career Center

Members of the junior class at West High School will attend the 1964 Career Guidance Center at the Great Western Exhibit Center Wednesday, March 18. The Career Guidance Center is sponsored by the office of the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools.

Three hundred juniors from house. This suggestion aroused some question, so it was quickly apparent the work of the Commission will not be easy.

West High will have an opportunity to view a panorama of career opportunities and to study new and different occupations during the visit. More than 500 job titles are represented in the display.

Dr. Robert Ford, West High principal, said the trip will supplement the regular school program in helping to select appropriate career goals.

MORE FOOD ADS IN THE HERALD

## ... Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

New York has always been the place to see in the United States. This year particularly with the billion dollar 1964-65 World's Fair at Flushing Meadow.

The 646-acre fairgrounds will bounce with millions of visitors from all over the world... beginning April 22 and ending Oct. 18. Then it will shut down for a six-month intermission... opening up again the following April for the final six months.

Officials expect over 80 million people to see the fair during its two-year run. The admission of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children will be cheap enough... inasmuch as it might take a person a month to see everything, if he really wanted to.

TWO DAYS is usually what I allow myself in New York before going to Europe... but this year I'll take maybe three or four days and include the fair.

Having friends or relatives in New York or the vicinity helps a great deal with the hotel bills (until they burst in on you here in California while they see Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, etc.).

New York has always been a notoriously high-priced city to visit. Hotels are overpriced... unless you can squeeze into the "Y"... meals are expensive... taxis and tips are high... but you always come away feeling that it was worth it.

THIS YEAR should be pleasantly different for the eager traveler who goes to the fair. There are plenty of three to eight day tours being offered that will include hotels, transportation to the fairgrounds, admission to the grounds. This is one way of being assured that your hotel won't be over-priced (if you can find one) and the whole package will be much cheaper than an individual could arrange it...

plus the saving of wear and tear on nerves while working out all the details.

One reason that I don't like to spend too much time in New York before going to Europe is the hardship of making arrangements for accommodations, etc... but this year I'm going to take a guided tour for my entire stay there.

SEE THE FAIR and go to Europe from there... a real dream come true for many, many Americans... old and young.

New York being the gateway to Europe from this hemisphere will no doubt witness a swarm of travelers... either enroute to Europe or returning home... and the fair will have its share.

Because of special celebrations and spectacles... all Europe is gearing itself for the new waves of tourists. There is little doubt that 1964 will set an all-time record for Europe's tourist industry. Paris is cleaning... Rome is getting ready... Venice is excited.

ALL EUROPE will be celebrating William Shakespeare's 400th birthday. In England especially, the bard's birthday will have great meaning. Programs commemorating the date will be held throughout the land.

This year is the year for the Swiss National Exposition at Lausanne. Held only once every 25 years, it should be an event to see... especially after seeing the New York Fair. Lausanne is one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Adrienne Fournier, who works at Disneyland and Jeanne Sties, a student at El Camino College, signed up this week for my tour to Europe. The group is just forming and it will be fun... leaving June 27 and returning Aug. 3 (only \$1248).

## Tartar Teen Talk

By Carol White

The One-Act Play Festival is only a few days away. Just the finishing touches are needed and the actors are now vigorously practicing their lines and "Q's" around campus, during lunch, on the way to classes, and wherever else they can.

Director and writer, Karen Keller, of "Love Thy Cousin" is still laughing watching those crazy scenes of old-fashioned hill-billies, the Otins, visiting their modern-age cousins, pretty well-off ones at that!

Meanwhile, director Jeff Carpenter of Mike Hubberts' play, "Jonathan, Jonathan Crowley," is now complaining of actually being haunted himself by that old ghost. Poor Jeff, he was such a nice boy.

JUDY ALLEN, director of "Second Time Around" by Eleanor Westfall, seems to be the only one able to keep her-

self on an even keel. Well, after all, she is the only one directing a typical teen-age, every-day story. The problem is one you might have already faced.

Be sure to come on March 13 to see these enjoyable plays. Curtain time is at 8 p.m. in the auditorium. Prices are \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children. Students with A.S.B. cards will have no charge, but will be required to pick up tickets in advance.

CONGRATULATIONS to our "B" basketball team. They won the "B" championship with a record of 9 wins and 1 loss. The boys gave us an excellent season and we are very proud of them.

Thought for the day—Smile. You may make your day or somebody else's brighter! See you next week.

## Garden Checklist

1. You can prune acacias after blooming to keep them from becoming ungainly. No need to be too bashful with the shears either.
2. You can top-mulch peonies with some kind of humus. You can also plant them new. Important things are plant with the crown above the ground.
3. Rooted tuberous begonias are here. Plant, plant, plant!
4. Cannas (you can call them canna lilies) go in now. Full sun. Check with your nurserymen on the dwarf forms. They're great.
5. If you can plant your perennial phlox where it gets plenty of morning sun but noon-time shade, happy day, you'll have the finest color you've ever seen.

# MARCH of BARGAINS

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